



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

There are few cases in which the retailer of a dangerous commodity sold it with a knowledge of its danger. Chief Justice White has suggested that even though a retailer sells gasoline mixed with kerosene with knowledge of the danger, the negligent manufacturer might still be held liable.¹¹ In the case of *Clement v. Crosby*,¹² a retailer sold inflammable stove-polish with full knowledge of its dangerous character. The manufacturer and the retailer were later held liable as joint tort-feasors for the accident resulting from the explosion of the stove-polish. In view of these decisions and of the general trend of the law, it would appear that a contrary opinion might have been given in the principal case.

E. B. P.

¹¹ *Waters-Pierce Oil Co. v. Deselms* (1908), 212 U. S. 159, 53 L. Ed. 453, 29 Sup. Ct. Rep. 270.

¹² (1907), 148 Mich. 293, 111 N. W. 745.

Book Reviews

THE ACT TO REGULATE COMMERCE CONSTRUED BY THE SUPREME COURT. By Hubert Bruce Fuller. John Byrne & Company, Washington, D. C. 1915. pp. x, 585. \$6.00.

The bibliography of the Act to Regulate Commerce has become so extended that the field has seemed completely occupied, if not overcrowded. But Mr. H. B. Fuller of the Cleveland, Ohio, Bar has found a gap in the book shelf and has undertaken to supply it with a treatise on the Act as "construed by the Supreme Court." As the title implies, the decisions of the lower Federal courts and the rulings of the Interstate Commerce Commission are alike disregarded, the treatise being predicated solely upon the expressions of the one tribunal from whose decisions there is no appeal. The result is a text book of singular authority.

A preliminary chapter is devoted to the commerce clause of the Constitution. This review of the constitutional aspects of the law, while necessarily brief, is scholarly and comprehensive. It is matter for comment that so much of merit could have been crowded within the limits of fifty-three pages. The chapter constitutes an effective introduction to the first section of the Act to Regulate Commerce.

The order of treatment in the main text conforms directly to the division of the Act to Regulate Commerce, a chapter being devoted to each section. The mechanics of the book consequently add greatly to the convenience of the student and the practitioner desiring to ascertain the state of the decisions upon a specific paragraph of the statute. Extended comment upon the text itself will be superfluous, for, in the very nature of things, the writer could hope to do no more than to reflect faithfully the principles established by the court. Suffice it to say that the work has been intel-

ligently and honestly done, and that it is responsive to a definite need.

A. P. M.

UNIFORM BUSINESS LAW. By Coleman Hall Bush. H. M. Rowe Co., Harlem Square, Baltimore, Md. 1915. pp. x, 465. \$1.10 cloth. \$1.25 Buckram.

Text books on commercial law may be divided into two classes: first, those which are intentionally confined in their application to a particular jurisdiction, and which are, therefore, unfit for use in any but the field which they are specially designed to cover; and second, those which are of such wide scope as to be useful only as declaratory of general principles, and of little or no value as practical handbooks of business law. Occasionally an effort is made to combine in a single work the desirable features of both classes. Invariably the attempt results in the production of a book which is, at best, unreliable in many respects, and actively misleading in others.

"Uniform Business Law," by Coleman Hall Bush, provides an apt illustration of what has been said with respect to the consequences of attempting too much in the construction of a text book on commercial law. The author's endeavor has been, to use his own words, "to present the widest range of business law consistent with its intelligible statement in limited space." From the point of view of logical arrangement of his subject matter, and clarity of exposition, he has accomplished much, yet the work as a whole is far from satisfactory. In some instances, as for example in his treatment of the subject of bankruptcy (page 96), and again, of the liability of stockholders for corporate debts (page 305), Mr. Bush has given to his topic such incomplete consideration as to leave the reader feeling that it might better have been omitted altogether. In other instances, the effort to gather the law of all jurisdictions upon a particular point into a single statement has resulted in the enunciation of rules which are, to say the least, of doubtful accuracy. As typical of these may be cited the rule which the author lays down (page 190) to the effect that the Statute of Frauds applies to the "sale of any goods or choses in action of the value of *five hundred dollars or upwards*." Further comment upon these points would serve no worthy purpose. In conclusion it may be remarked that the faults of Mr. Bush's contribution to the bibliography of commercial law should be charged in large part to a seeming disregard of the natural limitations of his opportunity. However ideal might be a system of uniform business law throughout the several states of the Union, such a system does not, as a fact, exist.

J. U. C., Jr.

FRENCH POLICY AND THE AMERICAN ALLIANCE OF 1778. By Edward S. Corwin, Princeton University Press, Princeton, 1916. pp xvi, 430. \$2.00 net.